

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

**Question: AET 1348-1355**

**Topic: Reviews**

**Written: 5 March 2014**

**Senator LUDWIG asked:**

1348. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, how many new reviews (defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:

- a. the date they were ordered
- b. the date they commenced
- c. the minister responsible
- d. the department responsible
- e. the nature of the review
- f. their terms of reference
- g. the scope of the review
- h. Whom is conducting the review
- i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review
- j. the expected report date
- k. the budgeted, projected or expected costs
- l. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public

1349. For any review commenced or ordered since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?

- a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names
- b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent
- c. If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item
- d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement
- e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details.
- f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them
- g. If yes, for each, who selected them
- h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,

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- i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was
  - ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list
  - iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
  - iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department
  - v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur
1350. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, what reviews are on-going?
- a. Please list them.
  - b. What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews?
1351. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.
1352. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.
1353. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.
1354. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
1355. What reviews are planned?
- a. When will each planned review be commenced?
  - b. When will each of these reviews be concluded?
  - c. When will government respond to each review?
  - d. Will the government release each review?
    - i. If so, when?
    - ii. If not, why not?

**Answer:**

1348. Nil
1349. Nil
1350. Ongoing Review
- a. Commonwealth Grants Commission 2015 Methodology Review due for completion 28 Feb 2015.
  - b. Methodology reviews are a core responsibility of the Commission involving all staff either directly or indirectly. It is not possible to estimate what part of the Commission's budget of \$6.2m could be attributed to it, or to the underlying research and analysis undertaken by the Commission on State fiscal capacities.
1351. Nil

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- 1352. Review Into Improving The Impact Of Financial Assistance Grants On Local Government Financial Sustainability.
- 1353. One. Review Into Improving The Impact Of Financial Assistance Grants On Local Government Financial Sustainability. December 2013.
- 1354. N/A
- 1355. Nil